TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, 14th August, 1923.

(*OFFICIAL REPORT.*)

The Council assembled in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven Thirty-four of the Clock. The President was in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12—*

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Vacancy of a First Grade Excise Inspector.

171. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Excise Commissioner has, in filling the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Ramalingam Aiyar, First Grade Excise Inspector, made recommendations to the Government, ignoring the claims of Mr. K. Sivasankara Pillai, Second Grade Inspector (Senior), and of Messrs. K Paramu Pillai B. A., B. L., and S. Krishna Aiyar, B. A., B. L., Head Clerk, and Head Accountant, respectively, in the Commissioner's Office ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : Government cannot disclose the contents of correspondence between them and their officers in regard to appointments or promotions

Scrutiny of Appointments made by the Excise Commissioner.

172. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel cum Vilavankod*) : (*a*) With reference to the answer given to interpellation No. 224 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st Minam, 1098, stating that Government were scrutinising the appointments below Rs. 40 made by the Excise Commissioner, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have finished the scrutiny of such appointments ?

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[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

(*b*) In case the scrutiny is finished, have the Government been able to notice any acts of injustice done by the Excise Commissioner?

(*c*) If so, in how many cases were modifications effected in the appointments made by him?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the persons concerned in those cases and their official designation?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*d*) The list of appointments made by the Excise Commissioner under the reorganisation is still under scrutiny.

Appointment of Relatives by Heads of Departments.

173. MR T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the rules issued by the Government to the effect that the relatives of heads of departments should not be appointed under them are still in force?

(*b*) Was it during the administration of Mr. Van Ross that Mr. W. J. Cleur, a relative of his, was appointed as Inspector, Customs House, Alleppey?

(*c*) Have the Government permitted him to keep this Inspector, who is a relative of his, under him?

(*d*) Are Government aware of the fact that, when the appointment of Mr. W. J. Cleur was made, there were applicants with better qualifications and that there were men in the department itself with higher qualifications and service?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mr. Cleur was appointed as Inspector before Mr. Van Ross became the head of the department. He was posted to the Customs House, Alleppey, by Mr. Van Ross.

(*c*) The Proclamation relating to the matter does not prohibit the retention of relatives of heads of departments in their own departments.

(*d*) No.

Persons from Cochin Service now in Travancore Service.

174. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to prepare and lay on the table a statement giving the following items of information:

(*a*) the names of persons entertained in the public service in Travancore who were previously employed in the Cochin service;

(*b*) the offices which they held there and the pay thereof;

(*c*) the appointments given to them here and the pay thereof;

(*d*) the names of those borrowed from the Cochin service;

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